

1 CLAIMS

2 What is claimed is:

3 1. A method of implementing a cellular automata based random number
4 generator (CA-based RNG), comprising:

5 determining an interconnection topology;

6 screening a CA-based RNG candidate based on said interconnection topology;

7 and

8 subjecting said CA-based RNG candidate to a suite of random number tests in
9 response to said CA-based RNG passing said screening step.

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11 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said CA-based RNG candidate is
12 under a periodic boundary condition in at least one dimension.

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14 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said interconnection topology is
15 identical for all cells of said CA-based RNG candidate.

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17 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said determining topology (310) step
18 includes:

19 exhaustively providing all possible interconnection topologies for a given
20 neighborhood number for cells of said CA-based RNG candidate.

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1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein said determining topology (310) step
2 further includes:

3 pruning said interconnection topologies to reject interconnection topologies
4 for which no input of a cell of said CA-based RNG candidate is connected to said
5 cell's output.

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7 6. The method of claim 4, wherein said determining topology (310) step
8 further includes:

9 pruning said interconnection topologies to reject interconnection topologies
10 for which displacement values for all inputs for a cell are evenly divisible by a length
11 of said CA-based RNG for any displacement values whose absolute value is greater
12 than 1.

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14 7. The method of claim 1, wherein said screening (320) step includes:
15 calculating entropy of said CA-based RNG candidate; and
16 accepting said CA-based RNG candidate for testing based on one or more
17 predetermined criteria.

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19 8. The method of claim 7, wherein said calculating entropy step includes:
20 calculating an expected value of a subsequence within a sequence;
21 initializing said CA-based RNG candidate through a predetermined number of
22 clock cycles and monitoring occurrences of said subsequence; and
23 determining said entropy based on said expected value and results of
24 monitoring said subsequence occurrences.

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1 9. The method of claim 8, further comprising:
2 rejecting said CA-based RNG in response said occurrence being greater than a
3 multiple of said expected value.

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5 10. The method of claim 7, wherein said accepting step includes accepting
6 said CA-based RNG candidate for testing in response to said CA-based RNG
7 candidate being in a list of a predetermined number of highest entropy CA-based
8 RNG candidates.

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10 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said accepting step includes
11 accepting said CA-based RNG candidate for testing in response to said entropy of
12 said CA-based RNG candidate being at or above a predetermined threshold entropy.

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14 12. The method of claim 1, wherein said standardized suite of random
15 number tests includes the DIEHARD suite of tests.

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17 13. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
18 selecting said CA-based RNG candidate in response to said CA-based RNG
19 candidate passing said suite of random number tests without at least one of time
20 spacing and site spacing.

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22 14. A cellular automata based random number generator (CA-based RNG)
23 implementing-module, comprising:

24 an interconnection-topology-determining-module determining an
25 interconnection topology;

1 a screening-module screening a CA-based RNG candidate based on said
2 interconnection topology; and
3 a testing-module subjecting said CA-based RNG candidate through a suite of
4 tests in response to said CA-based RNG passing through said screening-module.

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6 15. The CA-based RNG implementing-module of claim 13, wherein said
7 screening-module comprises:

8 an entropy-calculating-module calculating entropy of said CA-based RNG
9 candidate; and

10 a sorting-module accepting or rejecting said CA-based RNG candidate for
11 testing based on a predetermined criteria.

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13 16. The CA-based RNG implementing-module of claim 15, wherein said
14 entropy-calculating-module comprises:

15 an expected-value-module calculating an expected count value of
16 subsequences within a sequence;

17 an accumulating-module accumulating actual counts of said subsequences;
18 and

19 an entropy-determining-module determining said entropy based on an output
20 or outputs of said accumulating-module;

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22 17. The CA-based RNG implementing-module of claim 15, wherein said
23 sorting-module accepts said CA-based RNG candidate for testing in response to said
24 CA-based RNG candidate being in a list of a predetermined number of highest
25 entropy CA-based RNG candidates.

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2 18. The CA-based RNG implementing-module of claim 15, wherein said
3 sorting-module accepts said CA-based RNG candidate for testing in response to said
4 entropy of said CA-based RNG candidate being at or above a predetermined threshold
5 entropy.

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7 19. The CA-based RNG implementing-module of claim 14, wherein said
8 interconnection-topology-determining-module comprises:

9 a topology-generation-module generating one or more interconnection
10 topologies; and
11 a topology-pruning-module pruning said interconnections based on one or
12 more predetermined criteria.

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14 20. The CA-based RNG implementing-module of claim 19, wherein said
15 topology-generation-module exhaustively provides all possible interconnection
16 topologies for a given neighborhood number for cells of said CA-based RNG
17 candidate.

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19 21. The CA-based RNG implementing-module of claim 19, topology-
20 pruning-module prunes said interconnection topologies to reject interconnection
21 topologies for which no input of a cell of said CA-based RNG candidate is connected
22 to said cell's output.

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24 22. The CA-based RNG implementing-module of claim 19, topology-
25 pruning-module prunes said interconnection topologies to reject interconnection

- 1 topologies for which displacement values for all inputs for a cell are evenly divisible
- 2 by a length of said CA-based RNG for any displacement values whose absolute value
- 3 is greater than 1.